Boxing World AND MIRROR of LIFE

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE

SPORTING OBSERVER

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TO FIGHT TWO CHAMPIONS.

TOM GIBBONS, who has stayed fifteen rounds against Jack Dempsey and is reported matched to meet the world's champion again, and also Georges Carpentier, the holder of the European heavyweight title.

BOXING WORLD
AND
MIRROR OF LIFE
WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
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FISTIC COMMENTS.

TODD AND MOODY.

From as far afield as New Bedford, Conn., came word a few days ago that Roland Todd and Frank Moody had been matched to box at the National Sporting Club next June 28th for the British and European middleweight titles, but Mr. A. F. Bettinson, the manager of the Club, has said the report has no foundation. He has not negotiated for the match, and says it is improbable that anything will be done towards bringing the pair together until they return from America, also that such a match would have to come before the Club committee in the usual way.

Moody is anxious to make a bid for Todd's titles, but it may not be said that he has first right to meet the champion who, it may be recalled, knocked him out in the ninth round of a contest at Newcastle three years ago. Ted Moore, who has also been beaten by Todd, though not by the knock-out route, has a prior claim, as he has twice beaten Moody. The latter, however, has expressed his readiness to try to make amends for these failures, and as Mr. George Almy pointed out in our last issue, Mr. Billy Ames, manager for the Pontypridd middleweight, recently said: "I think so well of Moody that I stand ready to match him against Moore on a winner-take-all basis, also with the understanding that the loser shall return to England at once. I have put this offer up to Tom O'Rourke, who is caring for Moore's affairs, and I hope that he will be game enough to accept it."

That Moore should accept this offer, I would not care to say. It will be time enough for the pair to come together again when they return home. Meantime, they and Todd should endeavour to clean up the middleweight division in the States.

TWO MATCHES FOR TED WHITE.

Ted White, the ex-amateur welterweight champion, who became a professional when, three weeks ago, he defeated Andrew Newton on points at Premierland, is to figure in two contests at that hall in the near future. He is ambitious of working his way to the front of the paid ranks, and appears to be going to work on the right lines to attain the ends in view, in not attempting too much for the time being, while getting used to travelling longer distances than he had to when boxing for cups and other trophies as a representative of the Limehouse, Poplar, and District B.C.

White made a favourable impression when he beat Newton, and it is probable that he will add to that success a victory over Luther Thomas, of Swansea, who will be his opponent in a fifteen rounds contest on Thursday night. Thomas is the sort of boxer to give White a fairly good hun, but he is not a dangerous rival for the ex-amateur to tackle.

Between the time of White meeting Thomas and engaging in his third professional contest a little more than a month will elapse, and the display he gives against the Welshman will indicate what chance he will have of overcoming Harry Salkind (Stepney), another ex-amateur, who has made fairly good headway and was recently deemed unlucky not to get a verdict over Seaman Hall. On February 10th White and Salkind are to meet at 10 st. 7 lbs. over fifteen rounds for £50 a side, and the contest will doubtless attract attention, provided White triumphs over Thomas on Thursday.

DUBLIN BOXING.

I learn from Mr. Jim Murphy that he has arranged to run a series of boxing tournaments in Dublin at the Rotunda during the next three or four months, and that his first fistic entertainment of the New Year will be held on the 26th inst., when Lawrence Ward, a Roscommon lightweight, will go against Sam Minto, the coloured man who has had several contests in London of late and has done quite well. The meeting of these men over the fifteen rounds course will doubtless appeal to Dublin boxing enthusiasts, as the pair have already had one spirited argument of twenty rounds duration. Mr. Murphy promises to stage two other fifteen rounds contests on the same occasion, and in these Jock McCusker (Belfast) and Jock Delaney (Dublin) and Tom Maloney (Dublin) and Joe Parr (Blackburn) will meet. An open "bantam" competition for a silver cup will also be run, and lads desirous of trying to capture the trophy are requested to communicate with Mr. Murphy, 12, Henrietta Street, Dublin, before the 19th inst.

WAS IRELAND TO BLAME?

When Johnny Brown, of Hamilton, defended his title of "welter" champion of Scotland, and won over Alex. Ireland, of Leith, at the Drill Hall, Edinburgh, on Wednesday of last week he was returned the winner on a foul, therefore the match may not be said to have had a satisfactory ending. A report of the contest says: "In the tenth stage Brown jumped at his man, and Ireland delivered a terrific right intended for the body, which got his opponent on the rise. The blow, however, went low, and the referee ordered Ireland to his corner, and awarded the fight to Brown."

As far as the contest went Brown, who wants to make a bid for the championship of Great Britain which "Kid" Lewis has not been called upon to defend since he took it from Johnny Basham, had the better of the bout, and would have been unlucky had he lost when disabled by the low punch, perhaps, but if, as is stated, he caused the blow to land below the belt by jumping, it was unfair to disqualify Ireland. Under such circumstances a referee may, and should, decline to penalise the boxer not to blame for the infringement. It was unfortunate for Ireland to be adjudged the loser, but probably he will have another opportunity of disputing Brown's right to the Scottish title.

THE EUROPEAN LIGHT-HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE.

Although the title has been in the possession of Georges Carpentier since he won it several years ago, the International Boxing Union announces that for the designation of a European light heavyweight champion a competition will be organised as follows;—Before February 15, 1924, each of the European Federations of the International Boxing Union must appoint a boxer who will be proposed to the Emergency Committee of the International Boxing Union. The Emergency Committee will, before February 28, choose two boxers from among those put for-

STADIUM
PUDSEY STREET,
LIVERPOOL.
THURSDAY, JAN. 10th, 1924.
At 7.30 p.m.

TWO 15 ROUNDS CONTESTS
HARRY ROBINSON
Mexboro v.
JIM CARROLL
Liverpool
Weigh-in 2 o'clock, 9st. 9lbs. under forfeit.
IN THE RING AT 8.30

ELKY CLARKE
Scottish Fly-weight Champion v.
JOHNNY CUTHBERT
Sheffield
Weigh-in 2 o'clock, 8st. 4lbs. under forfeit
IN THE RING AT 7.45

10 ROUNDS CONTEST
Harry **WILLIAMS** Rock Ferry v Butcher **REARDON** Liverpool

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ward, and these two men will have to meet before April 30, 1924, for the Epropean light heavyweight championship. If one of the men fails to present himself the title will go to his opponent, who will automatically be qualified to meet the American champion for the world title.

"Light heavyweights from countries whose boxing federations are not affiliated to the International Boxing Union are not excluded from this competition. They may enter by taking out a direct licence at the secretariat of the International Boxing Union in Paris, and they will have the same rights as all other professional boxers."

It will be noted that the I.B.M. ignores "Battling" Siki's claim to the world's light heavyweight title, as well as Carpentier's right to the European honours. These were not at stake when Carpentier went under to the former, as only a European can box for a championship of Europe. The scheme proposed by the I.B.U. to find a successor of Carpentier is one that only such an incompetent body would offer, and whatever the Union does in the matter, the Frenchman will, in Great Britain, be acknowledged as champion.

J. BISSELL.

LIVERPOOL STADIUM.

TWO FRENCH REVERSES. TOM MALLINSON WINS.

Fred Desprez, who recently lost to Seaman Cox, and Marcel Devevey, two French boxers, met with defeat when they figured in fifteen rounds contests at the Liverpool Stadium last Thursday night. Both went the allotted number of rounds, and the decision against Desprez, after he and Tom Mallinson (Leeds) had furnished a hard bout was not approved by many of the spectators.

The Englishman was the aggressor at the outset, and, rushing his man, punched to the body with both hands, but Desprez, quick to retaliate scored with heavy head punches. In the second essay the Frenchman sent home a couple of punches to the jaw, but Mallinson came again, and was doing well as the round closed. In the next round a series of punches to the jaw from Desprez rocked Mallinson, and the 4th round was all in favour of the French boxer. Mallinson fought strongly in the next round, in which he cut one of the Frenchman's eyebrows. Mallinson's left ear was bleeding in the sixth round, but he was forcing the work, and at long range scored quite as freely as Desprez.

The ensuing three rounds, stoutly contested, went on about even lines, but at the tenth meeting the Frenchman's left was much in evidence. A hard right to the ribs came from Desprez in the eleventh meeting, and in a close quarter rally Mallinson received a right hook on the jaw. Both scored in heavy fashion in the following meeting with double-handed punches, while in the thirteenth Desprez set about his man, showering punches to the body. The Frenchman scored the more effectively, paying much attention to the body in the closing couple of rounds, and the decision in favour of Mallinson at the finish came rather as a surprise.

Devevey, a likely looking lad, who was making his debut at the Stadium, was opposed by "Young" Tilston, a seventeen-year-old Chester boxer, who early on did well with left punches to the ribs, and then sent right and left to the jaw. In the second round the Frenchman seemed to settle down and punches he sent to the ribs and face checked Tilston. Commencing the next meeting, Devevey was aggressive, and scored several times at close quarters, although in swinging for head he often missed. Some capital work was seen in the fourth round, and Tilston scored time after time with rights to the jaw.

Nothing of note occurred in the fifth round, but next time up, while Tilston was rushing impetuously, the Frenchman, boxing coolly, was scoring with right hooks to the jaw. The English lad did well in the next meeting, his right leads to the head being a feature, whilst Devevey was missing. In the eighth session the Frenchman scored well on the ribs, but a right from Tilston jarred his head back. A good round ensued in which each scored in turn. In this meeting the exchanges at close quarters were both clean and clever. Tilston made steady headway in the following few rounds, and the thirteenth meeting opened with Tilston scoring with head punches, but the Frenchman, boxing gamely, did much to equalise matters with body punches. Devevey was just about outscored in the closing stages, and he had to be satisfied with defeat on points.

ROBINSON AND CARROLL.

Harry Robinson (Mexborough) and Jim Carroll (Liverpool), lightweights, who have put up some good performances, are to be the chief contestants at the Liverpool Stadium on Thursday, and they should furnish an interesting battle, the winner of which will hardly be found inside of the allotted distance of fifteen rounds. They meet at 9st. 9lbs., while another bout of the same length will bring together Elky Clarke, a claimant to the Scottish flyweight title, and Johnny Cuthbert, of Sheffield, at 8st. 4lbs.

Harry Gold, the nineteen-year-old light heavyweight from Ealing, who scored his second win over Harry Drake (Windsor) when the pair contested twenty rounds at Fulham Baths last Wednesday, claims to have met with only one defeat in making twenty-eight appearances in the ring. He lost to Phil "Scott" (Suffling), it will be remembered, in the Crystal Palace heavyweight competition.

PREMIERLAND.

BILLY MOORE BEATS BILL HANDLEY.

Some two or three weeks ago, when Bill Handley (Hackney) gained a decision over Billy Moore, of Penygraig, on points at Premierland, many of the spectators deemed the Welshman unlucky, and on Thursday last a return contest of fifteen rounds' duration between the two at the same hall resulted in Handley being beaten after a hard bout. Moore's triumph at the second attempt was popular, and the critics agreed that he had a good lead.

Handley, a recent loser to Arthur Tyrrell, did not give one of his best displays. He was early erratic in trying the right and gave numerous openings, of which the Welshman took advantage. A left hook by Moore opened a cut by the side of Handley's right eye in the second round, and at the next meeting the Londoner was shaken by a right swing to the jaw. Moore was the aggressor in round four, and after unsteadying his man with a left hook to the chin, he scored with a similar punch just before the round ended. Handley hit his man low once in the fifth essay and was reprimanded. Moore acted on the defensive briefly, but then uppercut to the face with both hands.

The Penygraig man seemed to be on the road to victory, but in the ensuing few rounds, which were keenly contested, the Hackney man, doing well, forced the Welshman to get close to avoid. To the twelfth the Londoner continued to reduce his opponent's lead, but thereafter Moore again got on top, and once during the fourteenth Handley was shaken by a swinging right. Moore well took the fifteenth essay and deserved his success.

Len Jay (St. George's) defeated George Nolan (King's Cross) on points over fifteen rounds, and a contest of the same length provided by Harry Burnstone (Middlesbrough) and Walter Rossi (Pontypridd) resulted in the former winning on points.

BURNS BEATS BLOOMFIELD.

Frankie Burns, middleweight champion of Australia, and Joe Bloomfield, of Islington, met over 15 three-minute rounds at Premierland on the 6th inst., and in the early stages only moderate boxing was seen, both men being over cautious. In the third round, Bloomfield, who is a brother of the light heavyweight champion, shook the Australian with a hard right to the jaw, but from the seventh session both settled down to give a good display. The bout went the full distance, with Burns generally on top at in-fighting, and the referee's decision was given in favour of Burns. In a ten-rounds contest Bill Softley (Poplar) beat Charlie Brown (Camberwell) on points.

OUR NOTE BOOK.

JIMMY WILDE RETIRED.—AMERICAN CRITICS ON HIS FARWELL BOUT.—THE REFEREE'S POSITION.—SHOULD HE OFFICIATE IN THE RING?—THE FRUSH-MATTHEWS EVENT.—MR. BARNETT'S INADEQUATE HANDLING OF IT.

Jimmy Wilde has declared that he will fight no more, and his exit is not unexpected. It has been taken for granted since last June, when Jimmy was relieved of the world's flyweight title, that the brilliant Welsh boxer was finished with the ring, and his statement that he has retired was made a few days ago. It is a pity we shall not see him in action again, but to give up in time is wise. Few doubt that he would have any trouble to defeat the English flyweights who aspire to the championships of Europe and Great Britain, but Jimmy, satisfied with the innings he has had, will not allow this to tempt him to remain in the game, for he recognises the time would be certain to come when the laurels would be wrested from him.

After about fourteen years' service in the ring Jimmy, who was 31 years of age last May, has thoroughly earned retirement, and it is pleasing to know he has put by for the rainy day sufficient of the money he earned while following the profession to make him independent. Wilde, unlike many ring champions who preceded him, used his head for something besides boxing, and his business interests will doubtless help him to more than retain the wealth he has accumulated.

It is to be regretted that Wilde, who accomplished so many great performances, does not take into retirement with him the world's flyweight title which he held for so long prior to paying his second visit to America last year and making what will be recorded as his last appearance in the ring. He met Pancho Villa in New York last June 18, it may be remembered, nearly two and a half years after losing to Pete Herman, one of the greatest bantamweights America ever sent to England, and though Villa conquered him in the seventh round Jimmy gave such a display of grit that American boxing critics wrote of him as one of the most courageous boxers they had ever seen.

Wilde doubtless thoroughly deserved their praise, and we have no hesitation in saying that the ring is losing in the Welshman a boxer whose equal at his weight has never been seen. Jimmy was a fighter as well as boxer, and if only we could produce a few ringsters as efficient as he was at his best American holders of world's titles would not be as numerous as they are.

Referring to Wilde's downfall the editor of "The Ring," a New York monthly wrote: "Seldom is the ring treated to a spectacle of a popular fistic hero winning a world's title and yet being shunted into the background by the loser. Such, however, was the case after the Wilde-Villa fight in which the badly battered victim was the hero in defeat while the popular Filipino, whose aggressiveness has won for him a horde of admirers, walked out of the ring with a world's championship, practically ignored by the throng.

"What could have made the spectators, almost to a man, rise when the knockout of Wilde took place in the seventh round, and pay such wonderful tribute to a fallen hero as to remain in almost absolute silence for nearly ten minutes while Wilde was being revived.

"The answer is simple. It was the wonderful exhibition of courage which Jimmy displayed, an attribute which ring followers adore in a fighter.

"It was his wonderfully courageous spirit that enabled Wilde to withstand one of the most terrific beatings we ever have seen a champion receive, that caused the 28,000 spectators to forget momentarily that there was such a fighter as Villa at the Polo Grounds, or that this plucky, two-fisted, fighting demon from the Far East, had carried off the world's flyweight championship."

George B. Underwood, a boxing scribe for the "New York Evening Telegram," in his story of the finish of the Welshman, clearly expresses the reason for the tribute paid to Wilde in the following lines:—

"The tragedy lay in the spectacle of seeing a little old man in the ring, only the shade of his former fighting self, his fistic blade blunted to the dullness of a rusty old scythe, playing the part of an animated punching bag for round after round, battered unceasingly, monotonously from pillar to post, yet facing an inevitable Waterloo with a courage that was sublime."

The same sentiment is expressed by a "New York Herald" writer, who said:

"So long as boxers will give demonstrations of courage and gameness such as were shown by Jimmy Wilde, the Welshman, in his defeat by Pancho Villa, the Filipino, so long will the sport continue to have a strong appeal in spite of the doubtful associations and frequent disappointments. Wilde's brave stand against the toll of years and the punishment dealt out by his young opponent made the Anglo-Saxon almost as great in defeat as was the Filipino in triumph.

"Many were the points for pluck which Wilde received from the crowd of 28,000 which saw him go down before Villa with colours flying, refusing to the last to avoid further punishment in a hopeless cause by throwing in a towel.

"Foolhardy? Perhaps. But stands such as these make the romance which undeniably attaches to the ring."

No other British boxer in the hour of defeat in America has been so highly praised as Wilde, and we all know in what admiring way the boxing scribes in Great Britain have written of the famous Welsh lad, once the "Terror" of Tylorstown.

* * *

In view of what occurred at The Ring on Monday of last week, when Danny Frush and Billy Matthews met, and the opinions expressed in contemporaries whether the referee should or should not be in the ring while a bout is in progress, it will not be out of place to say something on the subject in these columns. Our readers are doubtless aware that we favour the referee officiating inside the ropes, and we do so for the reason that he is better placed to see what goes on. In a fixed position outside the ring there are times when he cannot see what is happening, and a man expected to give judgment on what takes place should not be at such a disadvantage.

The referee's duty is to render a decision promptly whenever the occasion arises, and his decision should be based upon what he sees What he does not see should be disregarded, therefore he should be where he can see better than anyone else. There ought to be no resorting to medical examinations when fouls occur, especially if the referee is in the ring, and we regard the withholding of the verdict in the Matthews-Frush bout until the day after the event as quite unjustified, for Mr. Charlie Barnett, who had charge of the contest and handled it badly, was in the ring at the time that Frush came down to a body punch in the fifth round and took the full count. Frush's complaint that he was floored by a low hit should have been upheld or turned down by the official immediately the blow was struck, and an efficient referee would have decided the point.

Either Frush was fouled or he was not—viewing the incident from the Press-box it was difficult to decide, owing to Frush having his back to the pressmen—and we were surprised when the referee declined to give a verdict, though we should not have been in view of the incompetence he displayed in the fourth round, when he permitted Frush to get away with the foul of striking his man when he was down, but took fully a minute to make up his mind how to act, during which time the men retired to their corners and the official stalked about the ring and argued with the boxers and their seconds.

That Frush committed the foul referred to there was not the least doubt, and the blow he struck seem-

ed to be severe enough to warrant disqualification. Had the referee decided at once, one way or the other, he would have acted in a manner more satisfactory than he did in allowing hostilities to cease for the time mentioned. If, in his opinion, the foul did not merit disqualification he should, without delay, have stopped the bout as soon as Matthews got to his feet just long enough to reprimand the offender. A caution was at least that Frush deserved. in our opinion he should not have been excused for so glaring an infringement.

In endeavouring to explain the fourth round incident the referee, writing to a contemporary, says: ". . . I ordered Frush back to his corner immediately, and with one object, but Matthews complicated the situation by scrambling after his rival and trying to upset him by the legs. His breach of the rules just then was accidental.

"I then had two courses open to me. I could have declared 'No contest,' or I could try to make peace to allow the bout to be decided in sporting fashion. I chose the latter, and in spite of the loss of a few seconds (not a minute, as asserted by your reporter) I think I succeeded."

Mr. Barnett does not tell us with what object he sent Frush to his corner after he had fouled his man by hitting him while he was down. Was it that he meant to disqualify Frush and did he change his mind when Matthews scrambled after Frush? If so, his decision to allow the bout to proceed after the stoppage, which lasted for fully a minute, was altogether wrong If he made up his mind to disqualify Frush the contest was at an end before Matthews scrambled after the latter. As we saw the contest, the referee could not justly have declared it "No contest," and we cannot understand why he passed over the foul he saw and gave the verdict to Frush on a foul which he says he did not see committed.

In defence of his action of basing his decision on the doctor's finding upon examining Frush, Mr. Barnett writes: "The only point to be argued on the foul which brought the end is as to whether a doctor should be allowed to examine a boxer who claims a foul. Well, I did not create a precedent in that, because a similar course has been practised at the N.S.C., and I could hardly be expected to decide such a vital matter I protest against this being described as weakness on my part."

We cannot, of course, prevent Mr. Barneet protesting, but the fact remains it **was** weakness on his part to refer the matter to a medical man. Because the precedent had been established at the N.S.C. or anywhere else matters not. "I could hardly be expected to decide such a vital matter" is, to our way of thinking, ridiculous, considering that the referee is the one person to decide all points.

Coming back to the question of where the referee should be while a contest is in progress, we may say we are surprised to find the "Sporting Life" saying: "Our contention is that the third man in the ring is more conducive to bad boxing; to ugly scrambing contests, to holding and wrestling, than any other factor."

Boxers know quite well that they may not hold and wrestle no matter where the referee may happen to be, and it is our opinion that those given to infringing the rules in this way should be dealt with more severely than they have been for some time past. It is due to the weakness of numerous referees that during the past few years boxing in Great Britain has deteriorated, and until officials determine to stamp out the holding now indulged in boxers will not learn to defend themselves on legitimate lines.

It is no use, of course, of referees dealing drastically with offenders unless they receive the support of promoters, who should insist upon disqualified boxers forfeiting all or part of the money they agree to box for. There must be no giving way to any boxer who tries to dictate to promoters that contests shall be fought under conditions which do not protect the promoter and the public. Boxers have had too free a hand, and only last week Frush, who had insisted on the cancellation of a clause in the articles which would deny him the right to claim a share of the purse or gate receipts in the case of disqualfication, was allowed to choose the referee Frush's objection to the clause in the articles mentioned should not have been tolerated by the promoter, especially in view of the fact that he lost to Phil Bond on a foul only a few weeks before, and we hope, for the good of boxing, that promoters all over the country will in future decline to engage boxers who try to have matters all their own way when making matches.

MOORE WINS EVERY ROUND.

HOW THE PLYMOUTH MIDDLEWEIGHT BEAT "CAVEMAN" FISHER.

With a jab and a swing and a hook tossed in, Ted Moore, the Plymouth middleweight, figuratively, cut Caveman Fisher, Syracuse's battling cliff dweller, to shreds, in a one-sided bout of fisticuffs at the Arena, Syracuse, N.Y., on December 21.

So utterly outclassed was Fisher, that he made what was probably the poorest showing of his long career. The Caveman landed less than a dozen clean punches during the entire scuffle.

Three thousand fans were given one of the biggest treats in recent Syracuse ring history. They had paid, let it be known, to see Fisher get a good licking, and he got it. Moore passed in and out in finished style. True, Fisher was not knocked out, but he took such a beating that he might just as well have taken a K.O. flop.

When the clever and elusive Moore piled into the Caveman shooting batteries of blows, the crowd howled in delight. When the Caveman, incensed to the thirty-second degree, swung viciously at his clever foe, only to miss by the proverbial mile, the crowd howled in derision. It was a great night for the fans as well as Moore, but a bad night for the cliff dweller.

There were no knockdowns during the battle, but Moore sunk enough long straight rights into the pit of the Caveman's stomach to topple a score of ordinary men. Yet Fisher withstood the bombardment. "He's tough," one ringsider commented. "He's more than that. He hasn't got any feeling at all," replied another.

Fisher resorted to all the dirty tactics known to the ring profession. He butted, wrestled, kicked, pulled, shoved, stepped on Moore's feet and brought out all of his well known wares, except biting.

Moore, having been tipped off to the Caveman's style of battling, was ready and waiting for Fisher when the first gong sounded. He did not come dancing in as Fisher wished, but instead chose to fight Fisher at his own style. The way he ruffed up the Caveman was a source of extreme delight to the fans. In the clinches Moore gave Fisher a lacing. When the Caveman backed away he sank sundry blows to all parts of his anatomy above the waist line. When Fisher came in again he found Moore waiting with an assortment of punches.

And so it went the whole bout through. There was little of the fine art of boxing displayed except flashes of ring art shown by Moore when Fisher let go long enough to give him an opportunity. Fisher was a farce from start to finish. Against the accomplished and skilful Moore he was only a joke.

TED MARCHANT DEFEATED.

Following his success over George Chaney at Baltimore, Ted Marchant, the Salford lightweight, engaged in a match in that town with Joe Dundee, a local boxer, by whom he was beaten on points over twelve rounds. A report of the bout says: Seldom have two boxers given such a slam-bang exhibition anywhere as these did in the eighth round. Both came out of their corners like strange bulldogs. After Dundee had made a lunge at his adversary, Marchant brought the ringsiders to their feet by landing a short right and then a left to the jaw. He followed this up with four more socks with his right. Before the fans could bat an eyelash Dundee tore into his man like an enraged bull and drove home six solid rights to the point of least resistance. The eleventh round was almost a repetition of the eighth. Marchant opened with a clip to the jaw. Dundee retaliated with a right to the body that made the Englishman wince. Although Marchant rocked Dundee four times with rights to the jaw, the Baltimore boy always came back for more and outfought his man when it seemed as if he would be unable to do so. His recuperative powers after these socks were nothing short of marvellous.

RACING NOTES

When Turning Point slipped up at the water during the race for the Birmingham Selling Handicap Steeplechase, S. Duffy had the misfortune to break a collarbone.

* * *

Fairfield, the winner of the White Lodge Steeplechase over three miles at Haydock Park, is a safe and clever jumper, and we understand that the son of Creangate—Jujube will be entered for the Grand National, Mr. P. Dennis being his probable rider in the Aintree event.

* * *

The horses belonging to Mr. L. Oppenheim are leaving E. T. O'Sullivan's charge, and will in future be trained by Doyle at Heddington. The change, we understand, was at the request of O'Sullivan, who is expecting to shortly take over new quarters at Cheltenham.

* * *

When winning the Maiden Hurdle at Birmingham, Gianforte carried the colours of his new owner, Mr. Riddell, for the first time. Gianforte, who is a son of Cantilever, the winner of the Jockey Club Stakes and Cambridgeshire in 1913, was bred by Lord Harewood.

* * *

Mebos, who has run consistently in his last few efforts over hurdles, gained another place when finishing third to Rossieny and Lord Thanet in the Stretchford Hurdle at Birmingham, and this may be his last race in England, as it is reported that the colt will shortly be shipped to America.

* * *

M. Beary, the well-known flat race jockey, resumed riding over hurdles at Birmingham in the Staffordshire Hurdle, in which race he rode Redhill. At the Wolverhampton meeting in December, 1921, Beary rode three winners in succession, one being Nonchalante, who, in the following month, at Manchester, gave him a bad fall, which kept Beary out of the saddle for some weeks.

* * *

THIS WEEK'S RACING.

There is very little to enthuse over this week's programme, for Tenby claims attention on Wednesday and Thursday, whilst Lingfield Park occupies the last two days of the week.

The following should go close to winning their respective engagements:—

TENBY—WEDNESDAY.

The Grove Steeplechase—
MR. MADCAP.

The Knightston Hurdle Race—
TELEPATHY.

The Beauchamp Challenge Cup—
HARMONIOUS.

The Lawrenny Steeplechase—
WAVING PIN.

The Wroughton Flat Race—
D. HARRISON SELECTED.

TENBY—THURSDAY.

The Llwynarthan Steeplechase—
MY ROYAL.

The Selling Hurdle Race—
LIFE BUOY.

The Victory Hurdle Race—
SOUTHEND.

The Town Steeplechase—
ST. EDNAS.

LINGFIELD—FRIDAY.

The Newleaf Hurdle Race—
SUNDROP.

The Newchapel Steeplechase—
PROVIDENCE.

The Stayers' Hurdle Race—
EUPHROSYNUS.

The Blindley Hurdle Race—
SAVERNAKE.

The Burstow Steeplechase—
ARDGOUR.

The Howard Flat Race—
ACTIVE LAD.

LINGFIELD—SATURDAY.

The Sussex Hurdle Race—
POOLE'S SELECTED.

The Tower Steeplechase—
PROGRESS.

The Eden Vale Hurdle Race—
BORDER RANGER.

The Weald Steeplechase—
POOLE'S SELECTED.

The Tandridge Hurdle Race—
BARBERTON SQUARE.

The Hammerwood Steeplechase—
F. HARTIGAN'S SELECTED.

SAFETY FIRST.

WITH WHOM TO BET.

AT HOME.

BURRELL, R.,
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CHAPMAN, VILLIERS,
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COOPER, A.,
11, West Nile St., Glasgow.

DEY, THOMAS HENRY,
171, New Bond St., London.

BILLY DEW,
13, Bread St. Hill, London, E.C.4

TICH, L. (W. J. Bowden),
98, Lowden Road,
Herne Hill, S.E

TATTERSALLS:
ROGER WHITEMAN,
H. LEWIN,
GEO. CAMP,
BILLY DEW.

HOXTON BATHS

JOE DAVIS BEATS SEAMAN DAVIS.

Jim Harris submitted a programme comprising three fifteen and a similar number of ten rounds contests at Hoxton Baths last Monday afternoon, and in the event claiming most attention, Joe Davis, a local lightweight, won over Seaman Jack Davis of Chatham. The referee was called upon to pick the winner when the allotted fifteen sessions had been got through, but it was no difficult task as the sailor, who had fought with plenty of grit from start to finish, was well behind on points

The Hoxtonian had a pull in height and reach, and in addition knew more about the game than the service man, who filled second place nearly all through. At long and short range the civilian scored on the face and body, and in some rounds he tried hard to finish his man with rights to the jaw. Once in the seventh and twice in the thirteenth essay, the seaman came down, but he rose little the worse each time, and fought back pluckily. In the closing stages he was tired, but the Hoxton man could not apply the closure.

Billy Bird (Chelsea) was cleverer, and boxed with more speed than Billy Quinn (Bethnal Green), whom he beat on points over fifteen rounds, and in a bout stated for the same journey Teddy Baker (Bermondsey) defeated Jimmy Corp (St. George's) in the fifth session, the referee intervening when Corp, having been floored by a right on the jaw, only just rose in time to avoid being counted out, and was in no condition to resume boxing.

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AT THE RING.

"BANTAM" CHAMPION'S HARD-EARNED WIN.

BILL HINDLEY IMPRESSES.

Bill Hindley, a nineteen-year-old bantamweight from Horwich, made his debut in London, when, on Monday last, he went against Johnny Brown, the "bantam" champion of Great Britain and Europe, and he gave the latter such a hard battle, that we shall not be surprised to hear of him seeking a return match under championship conditions.

In a fifteen rounds contest—at 8st. 8lbs., the pair met at The Ring—it was not until the fourteenth session when there seemed a chance of the Lancastrian pulling off a surprise win, that Brown was a little fortunate to be proclaimed the winner. It is true that Hindley was down for the second time to clips on the jaw in that round, and apparently weak when the referee intervened, but possibly the provincial would have lasted out the round, and could he have done so, as well as make a good stand in the fifteenth essay, a decision in favour of the champion might not have been rendered, for at the time the closure was applied, Hindley, in the matter of point gathering, had done quite as well as Brown, who, after starting a 3 to 1 on favourite, and threatening to dispose of his man quickly, was fully extended for the reason that, though forceful and the stronger man, he was not nearly as clever as Hindley, who not only hit neatly, but time and again was very clever on the defensive.

The ability the Lancashire lad displayed in side-stepping, ducking and slipping blows quite surprised Brown, and it was fortunate for the latter that his opponent was not just a little stronger, so that he could deal more damaging punches. Though floored in the first round, and again in the second, by rights on the jaw, Hindley came up in good shape each time, and, seeming to gain confidence as he went along, he put in very good work after the fourth round, making the title-holder miss repeatedly, and slipping in jabs and hooks with each hand. Brown, who had been a bit over-eager, boxed with some caution when he found he had a lad who knew the game to deal with, and when in the seventh session Hindley outfought and outboxed him, Johnny began to wear rather a worried look. He put on a spurt; did a lot of attacking in the eighth round, but could not catch the slipping Horwich boxer, whose cleverness was appreciated by the crowd.

Brown had a slight lead at this stage, but it was wrested from him as the bout proceeded, by Hindley leading smartly and escaping the majority of his opponent's punches. The workmanship of the Lancastrian served to show up the weaknesses of the champion, but we should have liked to have seen Hindley counter more often than he did, when he evaded punches, and had good opportunities to score. The latter's hitting was often clever, but he lacked strength, and it seemed more because he had tired than anything else that he became distressed somewhat when put down twice in the round which proved the last.

In another fifteen rounds contest Dan Almond, who is also a Horwich lad, was well beaten by Jim Blake (Bethnal Green). The latter was on top in every round, and it was only by boxing with grit that Almond, who was felled once in the thirteenth and twice in the next essay, stayed the course.

JOHNNY CURLEY BEATS "YOUNG" BULL.

The meeting of Johnny Curley, of Lambeth, and "Young" Bull, of Castleford, at The Ring, where the Yorkshire lad had not appeared previously, panned out in favour of Curley on Saturday night, the referee rightly giving him the award when fifteen rounds had been contested. Bull, a sturdy and most willing lad, made a fight of it nearly all the way, but after a few rounds he filled second place, and was punished about the face.

The bout opened with the men at close quarters, and each aiming at the body. Curley punched the harder, and he was faster than Bull in the second round, when open-range boxing took place. His left shot out straight, and on several occasions he followed up with rights to the body. With the right the Londoner tried to get to the jaw often in the third term, but he could not land flush, and Bull here did a fair amount of scoring on the face by jabbing with the left. The Yorkshireman had none the worst of the fourth stage, in which he was the aggressor and landed with both hands. Curley missed with the right repeatedly, and at the next meeting he hardly led as frequently as Bull, who was making a good stand, and fought back when punished about the face in the sixth round.

The Castleford lad did not seem as fresh as Curley upon coming up for the seventh round, and rights on the jaw shook him. He was plucky, however, and retaliated with the left. The following two rounds saw Bull fighting, giving little for what he had to take on the face. Curley was hitting freely, though not with much power, and he could not distress the Yorkshire lad, who did a little scoring, and after losing the twelfth round took the thirteenth by forcing matters, and keeping his left going to the face. After this, however, Curley increased the lead he had established, and finished a clear winner.

Harry Pullen (Blackfriars), though handicapped in height, reach and weight, triumphed over Hyman Gold, a Hebrew claiming to hail from Newcastle, on points, in another fifteen rounds "go," and Charlie Kemp (Paddington) beat Pte. Palmer (Tank Corps) in the seventh session of a ten rounder, the referee stopping the contest after Kemp had had all the better of matters.

ERNEST TYNCKE BEATS "KID" HARRIS.

Ernest Tyncke, claimant to the Welterweight championship of Belgium, and a brother of Henri Tyncke, who put up several good fights here a few years ago, made an impressive appearance in the chief event, a fifteen rounder, at The Ring last Thursday. He beat "Kid" Harris (Barbadoes), a sturdy coloured "welter," in the ninth round, the referee applying the closure when Harris was down for the third time in that session and looked like being counted out.

Though a tough customer and willing enough, the black, who was outfought nearly all the time the bout lasted, was gradually weakened by the head and body punches the Belgian administered, and he was well behind on points when the end came. Handicapped in height and reach, he found it hard to get close enough to land much of the time, whereas Tyncke frequently jabbed the left to the face and followed up with the right.

While strong in the early rounds, the negro sought to get his right over to the jaw, but he could not find the opening he wanted, as Tyncke made use of the ring. The latter hit rather hard, and body punches he dealt were harmful after a few sessions. They reduced Harris's strength, and occasional rights to the jaw shook the negro, who at the close of two or three rounds was in need of the usual minute's respite. In the eighth essay the "Kid" was unsteadied, and when at the next meeting he came down to a right on the jaw he took a count of eight. The next blow—a right to the body—floored him for two, and almost as soon as he got up two more rights on the chin deposited him on the boards in such distress that at the count of seven the referee stopped the bout and declared Tyncke the winner.

In the ten rounds bouts "Young" Bill Lewis (Bethnal Green) drew with "Young" Stanley (Battersea), and Eddie Fraser (Tooting) beat Sam Blacker (St. George's) on points.

Peter Van der Veer, the champion heavyweight of Holland, who defeated Albert Lloyd (Australia) a few weeks ago at The Ring, is to reappear at that hall in the near future, when his opponent in a twenty rounds contest will be George Cook, the other Australian heavyweight in our midst.

* * *

Due to "Kid" Lewis declining to go through with a match with Albert Rogers (Mitcham) next Monday at The Ring, after signing to do so, Johnny Bee (Birkenhead) will tackle Rogers. The pair have met once, with victory resting with the Londoner, and it is doubtful if Bee will be able to take revenge.

American Boxing Gossip.

By "Doc" Almy.

Boston, December 28.—To all readers of the "Mirror of Life and Boxing World," a happy New Year. May you live long and prosper.

* * *

There has come to hand a report from France of the retirement from the boxing game of Gene Criqui, one of the few real heroes in sport, and the cause is given as broken heart, which latter sounds as about the correct diagnosis.

* * *

Some day someone may be able to assemble such facts as will enable them to write the real story of Criqui, particularly that part of it relating to his winning and losing of the feather title. It would be decidedly interesting, perhaps somewhat startling, and would in the main explain why Criqui's heart is reported to have broken. The writer is of opinion, and has consistently stuck to it, that the French fistic hero of the great war has been fooled, cajoled and tossed around more than he or his associates would ever care to admit. His winning of the title from Kilbane, his failure to reap any reward from the fact, and his remaining in this country until he was beaten to a frazzle by Dundee, are but chapters in what might be a most surprising story.

* * *

The first and only time the writer saw Criqui in action was against Kilbane in the Polo Grounds, last summer. He was then about 31 years old, and it was plain as a Broadway electric sign that his years in the ring and trenches had about sapped him as a fighting man. Kilbane, though a little older, was in better physical trim, and was certainly the better boxer. That the American was "wise" as to Criqui, and consequently entirely underrated him, there is no question. Undoubtedly the readers remember the fight, and how after it Criqui was touted as one of the seven wonders by practically every writer present, with but one or two exceptions. When the time came, however, for the game little chap to live up to all the ballyhoo, he was unable to do so. He was a target for Dundee all the way; had nothing but gameness left. Half a round out of 15 was the best that could be given him, this chap who had been so played up and praised but a few short weeks before.

* * *

While there was no pleasure to me in the humbling of Criqui, or the more recent news from France of the hero's retirement from the game, they serve to bear out my contention that Kilbane's defeat at the hands of Criqui was due to his own gross carelessness to say the least. And this is putting it mildly. I stated the day after the Kilbane-Criqui bout that Criqui was all done with the game, and would be defeated by the first man of any ability he met, and most certainly by Dundee.

* * *

The rumbles from Firpo down in Argentine, coupled up with yesterday's announcement from Tom Gibbons, that he would open his campaign by picking a fight with Fred Fulton, would indicate that the clean-up for the 1924 fistic season would be somewhat similar to that of 1923. We shall miss the veteran Jess Willard from the scene of frenzied finance, also Floyd Johnson, in all probability, but Georges Carpentier, now practically all done in his own country, will help out the situation a bit.

* * *

Wherein Tom Gibbons, beaten practically 15 rounds out of 15, though going the distance, should have any real claim for a return battle with Dempsey, or that Firpo will have the slightest chance of annexing the champion's title next summer, does not appear. It is nothing to the writer, in fact to thousands, if Gibbons, Carpentier, Firpo and others refrain from a bout with Harry Wills for the next 50 years, but their avoidance of a scrap with him and the selecting of such chaps as Fulton and Carpentier for their game, points that about all they are out for are the round iron dollars that the goofs can be readied up to contribute. As for the sport involved, there will be little enough of that.

* * *

Johnny Wilson, the former middleweight champion, was a caller yesterday, and stated that he is signed up to meet Harry Greb on January 18, in the Garden, 15 rounds to a decision the title will be at stake.

Wilson will do his training, as usual, at Summit, N.J., and it is a safe bet he will be in the condition of his career the night of January 18, furthermore, will come pretty close to defeating the Pittsburger.

* * *

The warming up of interest in Luis Firpo has served to revive talk of Jim Jeffries, the former heavyweight champion, acting as trainer and advisor for the Argentinian for the modest sum of 75,000 dol., all of which sounds very much like a new version of an old story. Last summer an attempt was launched to put Jeffries into the ring as the third man in the Dempsey-Firpo fight, a fat sum being named as the fee. The idea was "whaled" by several of the sport writers from this section and finally fell flat. What there is in the career of Jeffries in the last 15 years that should particularly signalise him as fitted to train Firpo or any other ringster for a fray with Dempsey, or wherein the sport world owes anything to the ex-champion, is not exactly apparent.

* * *

Mike McTigue and his manager, Joe Jacobs, continue to agree to disagree, consequently the efforts of Tex Rickard to arrage a bout for the Irishman with either Gene Tunney, of New York, or Georges Carpentier, have amounted to nil. As the situation stands, Rickard cannot stage McTigue unless the Irishman boxes under the direction of Jacobs, and this Michael refuses to do; consequently, Nature will continue to run its course, and our champion by courtesy cool his heels.

* * *

Ermino Spalla, Italian heavyweight, will make his American debut in a 15-round match with Gene Tunney, American light heavyweight title-holder, at Madison Square Garden, February 1st.

* * *

Tunney's title will not be at stake, as Spalla cannot make 175 pounds, but the match is expected to attract unusual interest. It will mark one of Tunney's most important ventures outside light heavyweight circles and also test the weight of challenges Spalla has directed at Luis Firpo and Jack Dempsey.

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